

# ELMIRA NEWS

Area

Dick Baumbach 607-732-4008

## Sisters Try New Life Style

By DICK BAUMBACH

Elmira — A new life style has been adopted by eight Sisters of Mercy who formerly lived at Notre Dame Convent here. The eight Sisters are now residing in a rented home on the west side of Elmira.

The Sisters received permission to set up housekeeping at their new home from Sister M. Judith Heberle, superior general of their order.

The nuns said they wanted to try the new life style for religious orders as an "at-

tempt to deepen interpersonal relations and prayer life and to develop a mutual sharing of community responsibility."

It was explained that much of the Sisters' religious life will be the same as when they were living at the Notre Dame Convent. However, Scripture study and contemporary readings will replace some of the more traditional forms of prayer.

Decisions affecting all eight Sisters will be made collegially rather than by a designated superior.

The Sisters said an example of how their new life style might become the norm for some religious communities in the Catholic Church was explained recently by Father Paul Boyle, CP., president of the Congregation of Major Superiors. Father Boyle said, after a nationwide study had been conducted on the new communal living for the religious, that "The new style of community life is flourishing. It provides the atmosphere for some wonderful experiences. The experience of those in these new groups and their major superiors strongly suggests the conclusion that this style of life will be normative for the future."

The majority of Sisters who teach at Notre Dame High School here will continue to live at the convent.

The eight Sisters said Sister Judith and her Council will continue to study plans for new utilization of some of the convent facilities.

## Hospital Names Aide

Elmira — Dr. William C. Schaefer has been named director of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at St. Joseph's Hospital here.

Dr. Schaefer is a physiatrist—a specialist in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Prior to moving to Elmira this month Dr. Schaefer maintained a practice in his specialty in Detroit, Mich.

As director of the Southern Tier Institute of Rehabilitation of St. Joseph's Hospital, he will serve as the professional and administrative head of the service.

The department includes physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and hearing service, vocational and psychological service.

Dr. Schaefer is a member of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the American Association of Electromyography and Electrodiagnosis.

Dr. Schaefer received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh and interned at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pa. His residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation was at New York University-Bellevue Hospital followed by a year at the Mayo Clinic. Prior to entering private practice in Detroit, Dr. Schaefer was section chief at Henry Ford Hospital in the same city.

## Society Adds Members

Elmira Heights—The affiliation of 14 new members and the installation of three new committee chairmen of the St. Charles Borromeo Altar and Rosary Society here will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday at the church.

A special part of the program will include the honoring of six of the ten founders of the

society. Four of the founders are not available to attend.

The six women to be honored are Mrs. Mary Aber, Mrs. Winifred Potter, Mrs. Blanche Shon, Mrs. Olive Hondak, Mrs. Ann Wolf and Mrs. Audrey Link.

Also to be honored will be past officers of the St. Charles chapter of the society. They will be presented awards of appreciation for their service.

The three new chairmen to be installed are Mrs. Rose Granis, visiting; Mrs. Barbara Angelo, calling; Mrs. Mary Jurusik, sewing.

The 14 new members are Mrs. Julia Smart, Mrs. Eleanor Meagher, Mrs. Barbara Lockner, Mrs. Mary Tress, Mrs. Carol Cain, Mrs. Addrienne Mu, Mrs. Madeline Santulli, Mrs. Virgene Kobbe, Mrs. Caroline LePage, Mrs. Julie Clark, Mrs. Kay Bambury, Mrs. Bonnie Marks, Mrs. Dawne Held and Mrs. Betty Mruk.

The program will consist of a procession, dedication of affiliates, recitation of the Rosary, installation of the chairmen, affiliation of new members, a sermon by Father Joseph T. Gaynor, pastor of St. Charles, presentation of awards and Benediction.

## Mass. Nurses May Refuse Abortion Duty

Boston — (RNS) — Professional nurses in Massachusetts have the right to refuse on religious or ethical grounds to participate in medical abortions or sterilizations, according to a policy statement set by the Massachusetts Nurses Association.

Those nurses who make their position clear in writing to their employers "shall not be assigned to participate, nor shall they be harassed, disciplined or treated in a discriminatory manner," the statement added.

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## Apalachin Events Scheduled

Apalachin—Two organizations at St. Margaret Mary Church here will be sponsoring special events during the next month.

On Sept. 12 from 1 to 7 p.m. the Holy Name Society will host a Men's Clambake on the parish grounds. All the men of the parish are invited to attend the affair. Cost is \$5 per person.

On Sept. 13 the parish's Altar and Rosary Society will hold its installation dinner at the Treadway Inn. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m. All women of the parish are invited. Reservations for the installation dinner must be made by Sept. 10. The dinner will cost \$6 per person.

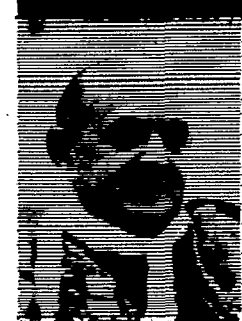
### DIACESAN EDUCATOR

Elmira — Sister Mary Esther Cockburn of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart has been studying at Seattle University this Summer, in the Master of Religious Education Program. She is consultant-coordinator for religious education in the southern tier of the diocese.

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